

11. Exclusion of Coverage

(a) Options or endorsements that extend the coverage available under any crop policy offered by FCIC will not be available under this endorsement, except the Late Planting Agreement Option. Written agreements are not available for any crop insured under this endorsement.

(b) Notwithstanding any provision contained in any other crop policy, hail and fire coverage and high-risk land may not be excluded under catastrophic risk protection.

12. Eligibility for Other USDA Program Benefits

(a) Even if it was a crop of economic significance for the previous crop year, if you do not intend to plant the crop in the current crop year, you do not have to obtain crop insurance or execute a waiver of your eligibility for any emergency crop loss assistance in connection with the crop to remain eligible for the USDA program benefits specified in subsection (e). However, if, after the sales closing date, you plant that crop, you will be unable to obtain insurance for that crop and you must execute a waiver of your eligibility for emergency crop loss assistance in connection with the crop to remain eligible for the USDA program benefits specified in section 12(e). Failure to execute such a waiver will require you to refund any benefits already received under a program specified in section 12(e).

(b) You are initially responsible to determine the crops of economic significance in the county. The insurance provider may assist you in making these initial determinations. However, these determinations will not be binding on the insurance provider. To determine the percentage value of each crop:

(1) Multiply the acres planted to the crop, times your share, times the approved yield, and times the price;

(2) Add the values of all crops grown by the producer in the county; and

(3) Divide the value of the specific crop by the result of section 12(b)(2).

(c) You may use the type of price such as the current local market price, futures price, established price, highest amount of insurance, etc., for the price when calculating the value of each crop, provided that you use the same type of price for all crops in the county.

(d) You may be required to justify the calculation and provide adequate records to enable the insurance provider to verify whether a crop is of economic significance.

(e) You must obtain at least catastrophic coverage for each crop of economic significance in the county in which you have an insurable share, if insurance is available in the county for the crop, unless you execute a waiver of any eligibility for emergency crop

loss assistance in connection with the crop to be eligible for:

(1) Benefits under the Agricultural Market Transition Act;

(2) Loans or any other USDA provided farm credit, including: guaranteed and direct farm ownership loans, operating loans, and emergency loans under the Consolidated Farm and Rural Development Act provided after October 13, 1994; and

(3) Benefits under the Conservation Reserve Program derived from any new or amended application or contracts executed after October 13, 1994.

(f) Failure to comply with all provisions of the policy constitutes a breach of contract and may result in ineligibility for certain other farm program benefits for that crop year and any benefit already received must be refunded. If you breach the insurance contract, the execution of a waiver of any eligibility for emergency crop loss assistance will not be effective for the crop year in which the breach occurs.

[61 FR 42985, Aug. 20, 1996, as amended at 63 FR 40631, July 30, 1998; 64 FR 40740, July 28, 1999; 65 FR 40484, June 30, 2000]

PART 403—406 [RESERVED]

PART 407—GROUP RISK PLAN OF INSURANCE REGULATIONS FOR THE 2001 AND SUCCEEDING CROP YEARS

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AUTHORITY: 7 U.S.C. 1506(1), 1506(p).

SOURCE: 64 FR 30219, June 7, 1999, unless otherwise noted.

§ 407.1 Applicability.

The provisions of this part are applicable only to those crops and crop

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years for which a Crop Provision is contained in this part.

§ 407.2 Availability of Federal crop insurance.

(a) Insurance shall be offered under the provisions of this part on the insured crop in counties within the limits prescribed by and in accordance with the provisions of the Federal Crop Insurance Act, (7 U.S.C. 1501 *et seq.*) (the Act). The crops and counties shall be designated by the Manager of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC) from those approved by the Board of Directors of FCIC.

(b) The insurance will be offered through companies reinsured by FCIC under the same terms and conditions as the contract contained in this part. These contracts are clearly identified as being reinsured by FCIC. Additionally, the contract contained in this part may be offered directly to producers through agents of the United States Department of Agriculture. Those contracts are specifically identified as being offered by FCIC.

(c) No person may have in force more than one insurance policy issued or reinsured by FCIC on the same crop for the same crop year, in the same county, unless specifically approved in writing by FCIC.

(d) If a person has more than one contract under the Act outstanding on the same crop for the same crop year, in the same county, that have not been properly approved by FCIC, all such contracts shall be voided for that crop year and the person will be liable for the premium on all contracts, unless the person can show to the satisfaction of FCIC that the multiple contracts of insurance were inadvertent and without the fault of the person.

(e) If the unapproved multiple contracts of insurance are shown to be inadvertent, and without the fault of the insured, the contract with the earliest application will be valid and all other contracts on that crop in the county for that crop year will be canceled. No liability for indemnity or premium will attach to the contracts so canceled.

(f) The person must repay all amounts received in violation of this section with interest at the rate con-

tained in the contract (see § 407.8, paragraph 21).

(g) A person whose contract with FCIC or with a company reinsured by FCIC under the Act has been terminated because of violation of the terms of the contract is not eligible to obtain crop insurance under the Act with FCIC or with a company reinsured by FCIC unless the person can show that the termination was improper and should not result in subsequent ineligibility.

(h) All applicants for insurance under the Act must advise the insurance provider, in writing at the time of application, of any previous applications for insurance or contracts of insurance under the Act within the last 5 years and the present status of any such applications or insurance.

§ 407.3 Premium rates, amounts of protection, and coverage levels.

(a) The Manager of FCIC shall establish premium rates, amounts of protection, and coverage levels for the insured crop that will be included in the actuarial documents on file in the insurance provider's office. Premium rates, amounts of protection, and coverage levels may be changed from year to year.

(b) At the time the application for insurance is made, the person must elect an amount of protection and a coverage level from among those contained in the actuarial documents for the crop year.

§ 407.4 OMB control numbers.

The information collection activity associated with this rule has been previously approved by the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) under control number 0563-0053.

§ 407.5 Creditors.

An interest of a person in an insured crop existing by virtue of a lien, mortgage, garnishment, levy, execution, bankruptcy, involuntary transfer or other similar interest shall not entitle the holder of the interest to any benefit under the contract.

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§ 407.6 Good faith reliance on misrepresentation.

(a) Notwithstanding any other provision of the crop insurance contract, an insured shall be granted relief to the extent of the insured's detrimental reliance or the extent of the policy benefits, whichever is less, under the following conditions:

(1) The person has entered into a contract of crop insurance under this part;

(2) A representative of FCIC made a misrepresentation or other erroneous action or advice;

(3) Such error concerned provisions of the insurance contract not contained in the Group Risk Plan of Insurance Basic Provisions, the Crop Provisions, the Federal Crop Insurance Act, or the regulations contained in this chapter;

(4) As a result of the error, the insured:

(i) Is indebted for additional premiums; or

(ii) Has suffered a loss to a crop which is not insured or for which the person is not entitled to an indemnity because of failure to comply with the terms of the insurance contract, but which the person believed to be insured, or believed the terms of the insurance contract to have been complied with or waived; and

(5) The Manager finds that:

(i) A representative of FCIC made such misrepresentation or took other erroneous action or gave erroneous advice;

(ii) The person reasonably and in good faith relied on such misrepresentation, erroneous action or advice to the person's detriment; and

(iii) To require the payment of the additional premiums or to deny such person's entitlement to the indemnity would not be fair and equitable.

(b) For FCIC Policies only, requests for relief under this section must be submitted to FCIC in writing. FCIC's reviewing officers must refer such application for relief to the Manager of FCIC for determination as to whether to grant relief. FCIC's reviewing officers do not have authority to grant relief under this section.

(c) For Reinsured Policies only, requests for relief under this section must be submitted to the reinsured company in writing. The reinsured

companies shall use arbitration, in accordance with the rules of the American Arbitration Association, under contracts for insurance issued by them under the Act to grant relief under the same terms and conditions as contained in this section or may establish procedures to administratively handle relief in accordance with this section. Granting relief under this section does not absolve the reinsured company from liability to FCIC for unauthorized acts of its agents.

§ 407.7 The contract.

The insurance contract shall become effective upon the acceptance by FCIC or the reinsured company of a complete, duly executed application for insurance on a form prescribed or approved by FCIC. The contract shall consist of the accepted application, Group Risk Plan of Insurance Basic Provisions, Crop Provisions, Special Provisions, Actuarial Table, and any amendments, endorsements, or options thereto. Changes made in the contract shall not affect its continuity from year to year. Except as may be allowed under § 407.6, and at the sole discretion of the Corporation, no indemnity shall be paid unless the person complies with all terms and conditions of the contract. The forms required under this part and by the contract are available at the office of the insurance provider, or the local FSA office, if applicable.

§ 407.8 The application and policy.

(a) Application for insurance, on a form prescribed or approved by FCIC, must be made by any person who wishes to participate in the program in order to cover such person's share in the insured crop as landlord, owner-operator, tenant, or other crop ownership interest. No other person's interest in the crop may be insured under the application. The application must be submitted to the insurance provider on or before the applicable sales closing date on file in the insurance provider's local office.

(b) FCIC or the reinsured company may reject or no longer accept applications upon the FCIC's determination that the insurance risk is excessive. The Manager of the Corporation is authorized in any crop year to extend the

sales closing date for submitting applications for fall planted crops, unless prohibited by law, upon determining that the probability and severity of claims will not increase because of the extension, by placing the extended date on file in the insurance provider's office and publishing a notice in the FEDERAL REGISTER. If adverse conditions should develop during the extended period, the Corporation will require the insurance provider to immediately discontinue acceptance of applications.

(c) Since this Group Risk Plan differs significantly from traditional Multiple Peril Crop Insurance, persons who purchase the Group Risk Plan and their crop insurance agents will be required to execute an "Acknowledgment of Differences" that explains that the terms and conditions of the Group Risk Plan are different from traditional crop insurance in that:

(1) The Group Risk Plan indemnity payment, if any, will be made after the Group Risk Plan premium is received;

(2) A person may have a low yield on his or her individual farm and not receive a payment under Group Risk Plan; and

(3) A person may not have any loss of production and still collect under the policy if a loss of production is general in the area.

(4) By executing the "Acknowledgment of Differences," the insured certifies that:

(i) He or she understands the terms of the Group Risk Plan;

(ii) An MPCP policy may be available in the county; and

(iii) Both a Group Risk Plan and a MPCP Plan cannot be purchased on the same crop by the same insured in the same county.

§ 407.9 Group risk plan common policy.

The provisions of the Group Risk Plan Common Policy for the 2001 and succeeding crop years are as follows:

[FCIC policies]

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

Federal Crop Insurance Corporation

Group Risk Plan Common Policy

[Reinsured policies]

(Appropriate title for insurance provider)

(This is a continuous policy. Refer to Section 18.)

[FCIC policies]

This insurance policy establishes a risk management program developed by the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC), an agency of the United States Government, under the authority of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (Act), as amended (7 U.S.C. 1501 *et seq.*). All terms of the policy and rights and responsibilities of the parties hereto are subject to the Act and all regulations under the Act published in 7 CFR chapter IV. The provisions of this policy may not be waived or varied in any way by the crop insurance representative, or any other representative or employee of FCIC, the Risk Management Agency (RMA) or the Farm Service Agency (FSA). In the event that the company cannot pay a loss, the claim will be settled in accordance with the provisions of the policy and paid by FCIC. No state guarantee fund will be liable to pay the loss.

Throughout this policy, "you" and "your" refer to the person shown on the accepted application and "we," "us," and "our" refer to the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation. Unless the context indicates otherwise, the use of the plural form of a word includes the singular use and the singular form of the word includes the plural.

[Reinsured policies]

This insurance policy establishes a risk management program created by the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC), an agency of the United States Government, under the authority of the Federal Crop Insurance Act (Act), as amended (7 U. S. C. 1501 *et seq.*).

This insurance policy is reinsured by FCIC under the provisions of the Act. All terms of the policy and rights and responsibilities of the parties are subject to the Act and all regulations under the Act published in 7 CFR chapter IV, and may not be waived or varied in any way by the crop insurance representative, any other representative or employee of the company, any representative or employee of FCIC, the Risk Management Agency, or the Farm Service Agency (FSA). All provisions of State and local law in conflict with the provisions of this policy as published in 7 CFR part 407 are preempted and the provisions of such part will control.

Throughout this policy, "you" and "your" refer to the person shown on the accepted application and "we," "us," and "our" refer to the reinsured company issuing this policy. Unless the context indicates otherwise, the use of the plural form of a word includes the singular use and the singular form of the word includes the plural.

[Both policies]

The Group Risk Plan of Insurance (GRP) is designed as a risk management tool to insure against widespread loss of production of the insured crop in a county. It is primarily intended for use by those producers whose

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farm yields tend to follow the average county yield. It is possible for you to have a low yield on the acreage that you insure and still not receive a payment under this plan.

For additional coverage you may select any percent coverage level shown on the actuarial documents. Multiplying your coverage level percent by the expected county yield shown on the actuarial documents gives your trigger yield. If the payment yield that FCIC publishes for the insured crop year falls below your trigger yield, you will receive a payment.

On or before the sales closing date, you may select any dollar amount of protection between 60 and 100 percent (except for Catastrophic Risk Protection (CAT) which is 55 percent) of the maximum protection per acre shown on the actuarial documents. This protection will be provided for each acre of the crop planted by the acreage reporting date and shown on your acreage report (unless otherwise provided in the crop provisions) in which you have a share.

In accordance with the Act, FCIC will pay a portion of your premium, as published in the actuarial documents. The premium rates, practices, types, maximum protection per acre, and maximum subsidy per acre are also shown on the actuarial documents.

FCIC will issue the payment yield in the calendar year following the crop year insured. This yield will be the official estimated yield published by the National Agricultural Statistics Service (NASS). You will be paid if the payment yield falls below your trigger yield. The amount of your payment per net insured acre will be calculated by subtracting the payment yield from the trigger yield, dividing that quantity by the trigger yield, and multiplying that result by your protection per acre for each net acre that you have insured.

To be eligible to participate in the Group Risk Plan of Insurance for any crop in any county, and to receive an indemnity thereunder, you must have an insurable interest in an insured crop that is planted in the county shown on the approved application. The crop must be planted for harvest and be reported to us by the acreage reporting date. You may only purchase coverage under the Group Risk Plan of Insurance on your net acres of the insured crop.

The insurance contract shall become effective upon the acceptance by us of a duly executed application for insurance on our form. Acceptance occurs when we issue a Summary of Protection to you. The policy shall consist of the accepted application, Group Risk Plan of Insurance Common Policy Basic Provisions, Crop Provisions, Special Provisions, actuarial documents, and any amendments, endorsements, or options.

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Agreement To Insure

In return for your payment of the premium and your compliance with all applicable provisions, we agree to provide risk protection as stated in this policy. If a conflict exists among the policy provisions, the order of priority is as follows: (1) The Catastrophic Risk Protection Endorsement, if applicable; (2) the Special Provisions; (3) the Crop Provisions; and (4) the Group Risk Plan Basic Provisions, with (1) controlling (2), etc.

Terms and Conditions

Group Risk Plan of Insurance Basic Provisions

1. Definitions

Acreage report. A report required by section 7 of these Basic Provisions that contains, in addition to other information, your report of your share of all acreage of an insured crop in the county, whether insurable or not insurable.

Acreage reporting date. The date contained in the Special Provisions by which you must submit your acreage report in order to be eligible for Group Risk Insurance.

Act. Federal Crop Insurance Act, (7 U.S.C. 1501 *et seq.*).

Actuarial documents. The material for the crop year which is available for public inspection in your insurance provider's local office, and which shows the maximum protection per acre, expected county yield, coverage levels, premium rates, practices, program dates, and other related information regarding crop insurance in the county.

Additional coverage. For GRP, an amount of protection greater than catastrophic risk protection. The protection is on a per acre basis as specified in the actuarial documents for the crop, practice, and type.

Billing date. The date, contained in the actuarial documents, by which we will bill you for the premium and administrative fee on the insured crop.

Cancellation date. The calendar date specified in the Crop Provisions on which insurance for the next crop year will automatically renew unless the policy is canceled in writing by either you or us or terminated in accordance with policy terms.

Catastrophic risk protection. The minimum level of coverage offered by FCIC. For GRP, an amount of protection equal to 65 percent of the expected county yield indemnified at 55 percent of the maximum protection per acre specified in the actuarial documents for the crop, practice, and type.

County. Any county, parish, or other political subdivision of a state shown on your accepted application.

Crop practice. The combination of inputs such as fertilizer, herbicide, and pesticide, and operations such as planting, cultivation, and irrigation, used to produce the insured

crop. The insurable practices are contained in the actuarial documents.

Crop Provisions. The part of the policy that contains the specific provisions of insurance for each insured crop.

Crop year. The period of time within which the insured crop is normally grown and designated by the calendar year in which the crop is normally harvested.

Dollar amount of protection per acre. The percentage of coverage selected by you multiplied by the maximum protection per acre specified in the actuarial documents for the crop, practice, and type. The dollar amount of protection per acre is shown on your Summary of Protection.

Expected county yield. The yield contained in the actuarial documents, on which your coverage for the crop year is based. This yield is determined using historical NASS county average yields, as adjusted by FCIC.

FCIC. The Federal Crop Insurance Corporation, a wholly owned corporation within USDA.

FSA. The Farm Service Agency, an agency of the United States Department of Agriculture, or a successor agency.

Good farming practices. The cultural practices generally in use in the county for the crop to make normal progress toward maturity, and are those recognized by the Cooperative State Research, Education, and Extension Service as compatible with agronomic and weather conditions in the county.

GRP. Group Risk Plan of Insurance.

Insurance provider. The FSA or a private insurance company approved by FCIC which provides crop insurance coverage to producers participating in any Federal crop insurance program administered under the Act.

Maximum protection per acre. The highest amount of protection specified in the actuarial documents.

MPCI. Multiple peril crop insurance, an insurance product based on an individual yield or amount of insurance.

NASS. National Agricultural Statistics Service, an agency within USDA, or its successor, that publishes the official United States Government yield estimates.

Net acres. The planted acreage of the insured crop multiplied by your share.

Payment yield. The yield determined by FCIC based on NASS yields for each insurable crop's type and practice, as adjusted by FCIC, and used to determine whether an indemnity will be due.

Person. An individual, partnership, association, corporation, estate, trust, or other legal entity, and wherever applicable, a state or a political subdivision or agency of a state.

Sales closing date. The date contained in the Special Provisions by which an application must be filed. The last date by which you

may change your crop insurance coverage for a crop year.

Share. Your percentage of interest in the insured crop, as an owner, operator, or tenant at the time insurance attaches. Premium will be determined on your share as of the acreage reporting date. However, only for the purpose of determining the amount of indemnity, your share will not exceed your share at the acreage reporting date or on the date of harvest, whichever is less.

Special provisions. The part of the policy that contains specific provisions of insurance for each crop that may vary by geographic area.

Subsidy. The portion of your premium, shown on the actuarial documents, that FCIC will pay in accordance with the Act.

Summary of protection. Our statement to you of the crop insured, dollar amount of protection per acre, premiums, and other information obtained from your accepted application, acreage report, and the actuarial documents.

Termination date. The calendar date contained in the Crop Provisions upon which insurance ceases to be in effect because of non-payment of any amount due us under the policy, including premium and administrative fees.

Trigger yield. The result of multiplying the expected county yield by the coverage level percentage chosen by you. When the payment yield falls below the trigger yield, an indemnity is due.

Type. Plants of the insured crop having common traits or characteristics that distinguish them as a group or class, and which are designated in the actuarial documents.

USDA. United States Department of Agriculture.

2. Insured Crop

The insured crop will be the crop shown on your accepted application, as specified in the applicable Crop Provisions, and must be grown on insurable acres.

3. Insured and Insurable Acreage

(a) The insurable acreage is all of the acreage of the insured crop for which premium rates are provided by the actuarial documents and in which you have a share and which is in the county listed in your accepted application. The dollar amount of protection per acre, amount of premium, and indemnity will be calculated separately for each county, type, and practice.

(b) Only the acreage seeded to the insured crop on or before the acreage reporting date (unless otherwise provided in the Crop Provisions) and physically located in the county listed on your accepted application will be insured. Crops grown on acreage physically located in another county must be reported and insured separately.

(c) We will not insure any crop grown on any acreage where the crop was destroyed or put to another use during the insurance period for the purpose of conforming with, or obtaining a payment under, any other program administered by the USDA.

(d) We will not insure any acreage where you have failed to follow good farming practices for the insured crop.

4. Policy Protection

(a) For catastrophic risk protection GRP policies, the dollar amount of protection per acre will be 55 percent of the maximum protection per acre specified on the actuarial documents for each insured crop, practice, and type. For additional coverage GRP policies, you may select any dollar amount of protection from 60 percent through 100 percent of the maximum protection per acre shown on the actuarial documents for the crop, practice, and type.

(b) The dollar amount of protection per acre, multiplied by your net insured acreage, is your policy protection for each insured crop, practice, and type specified in the actuarial documents.

(c) All yields are based on NASS determinations, and such determinations for the county will be conclusively presumed to be accurate.

5. Coverage Levels

(a) For catastrophic risk protection GRP policies, the coverage level is shown on the actuarial documents for each insured crop, practice, and type. For additional coverage GRP policies, you may select any percentage of coverage shown on the actuarial documents for the crop, practice, and type.

(b) Your coverage level multiplied by the expected county yield shown on the actuarial documents is your trigger yield. If the payment yield published by FCIC for the insured crop, practice, and type for the insured crop year falls below your trigger yield, you will receive an indemnity payment.

(c) You may change the coverage level or amount of protection for each insured crop on or before the sales closing date. Changes must be in writing and received by us by the sales closing date.

6. Payment Calculation Factor

Your payment calculation factor will be ((your trigger yield – payment yield) ÷ your trigger yield) for the purposes of calculating an indemnity payment.

7. Report of Acreage and Share

(a) You must report on our form all acreage for each insured crop in which you have a share (insurable and not insured) by practice and type specified in the actuarial documents in each county listed on your accepted application. This report must be submitted

each year on or before the acreage reporting date for the insured crop contained in the actuarial documents. If you do not submit an acreage report by the acreage reporting date, we will determine your acreage and share or deny liability on the policy.

(b) We will not insure any acreage of the insured crop planted after the acreage reporting date, unless otherwise provided in the Crop Provisions.

(c) Your premium will be based on the greater of the acreage reported on the acreage report or the acreage determined by us to be accurate.

(d) The payment of an indemnity will be based on your insurable acreage on the acreage reporting date.

(e) If you misrepresent or omit any information, we will revise the premium or liability or both for each insured crop in the county, by type and practice, to the amount we determine to be correct.

(f) You may insure only your share of the crop, which includes any share of your spouse and dependent children unless it is demonstrated to our satisfaction, prior to the sales closing date, that you and your spouse maintain completely separate farming operations and that each spouse is the operator of his or her own separate operation. Any commingling of any part of the operations will cause shares of you and your spouse to be combined.

8. Administrative Fees and Annual Premium

(a) If you obtain a catastrophic risk protection GRP policy, you will pay an administrative fee, unless otherwise specified in 7 CFR part 400:

(1) Of \$100 per crop per county;

(2) Payable to the insurance provider on the billing date for the crop.

(b) If you obtain an additional coverage GRP policy, you will pay an administrative fee:

(1) Of \$30 per crop per county;

(2) Payable to the insurance provider on the billing date for the crop.

(c) Limited resource farmers as defined in 7 CFR 457.8 may apply for a waiver of administrative fees.

(d) For additional coverage GRP policies, your premium is determined by multiplying your policy protection by the premium rate per hundred dollars of protection for your coverage level contained in the actuarial documents, by 0.01, and subtracting the applicable subsidy.

(e) For catastrophic risk protection and additional coverage GRP policies, payment of an administrative fee will not be required if you file a bona fide zero acreage report on or before the acreage reporting date for the crop (if you falsely file a zero acreage report you may be subject to criminal and administrative sanctions).

(f) The annual premium is earned and payable at the time the insured crop is planted. For each insured crop, you will be billed for premium and the administrative fee by the billing date specified in the Special Provisions. Premium, administrative fee, and any other amount owed us is due on the billing date and interest will accrue if the premium, administrative fee, or any other amount owed is not received by us before the first day of the month following the premium billing date.

(g) The premium, administrative fee, and any other amount due, plus any accrued interest, will be considered delinquent if it is not paid on or before the termination date specified in the Crop Provisions. This may affect your eligibility for benefits under other USDA programs. A debt for any crop insured with us under the authority of the Act will be deducted from any indemnity due you for this or any other crop insured with us.

(h) Failure to pay the premium and any administrative fee due, plus any accrued interest and penalties, by the termination date will make you ineligible for any crop insurance under the Act for subsequent crop years until the sales closing date after the date the debt, including interest and penalties, is paid or satisfactory arrangements acceptable to us for such payment are made.

9. Written Agreements

Terms of this policy which are specifically designated for the use of written agreements may be altered by written agreement in accordance with the following:

(a) You must apply in writing for each written agreement no later than the sales closing date;

(b) The application for written agreement must contain all variable terms of the contract between you and us that will be in effect if the written agreement is not approved;

(c) If approved by us, the written agreement will include all variable terms of the contract, including, but not limited to, crop type or variety, the protection per acre, premium rate, and price election; and

(d) Each written agreement will only be valid for one year. If the written agreement is not specifically renewed the following year, insurance coverage for subsequent crop years will be in accordance with the printed policy.

10. Access to Insured Crop and Record Retention

We may examine the insured crop and any records relating to the crop and this insurance at any location where such crop or such records may be found or maintained, as often as we reasonably require. Records relating to the planting of the insured crop and your net

acres must be retained for three years after the end of the crop year or three years after the date of payment of the final indemnity, whichever is later. We may extend the record retention period beyond three years by notifying you of such extension in writing. Failure to maintain such records will, at our option, result in cancellation of the policy or a determination that no indemnity is due.

11. Transfer of Coverage and Right to Indemnity

If you transfer any part of your share during the crop year, you may transfer your coverage rights, if the transferee is eligible for crop insurance. We will not be liable for any more than the liability determined in accordance with your policy that existed before the transfer occurred. The transfer of coverage rights must be on our form and will not be effective until approved by us in writing. Both you and the transferee are jointly and severally liable for payment of the premium. The transferee has all rights and responsibilities under this policy consistent with the transferee's interest.

12. Assignment of Indemnity

You may assign to another person your right to an indemnity for the crop year. The assignment must be on our form and will not be effective until approved in writing by us.

13. Other Insurance

You may not obtain any other crop insurance issued under the authority of the Act on your share of the insured crop. If we determine that more than one policy on your share is intentional, you may be subject to the sanctions authorized under this policy, the Act, or any other applicable statute. If we determine that the violation was not intentional, the policy with the earliest date of application will be in force and all other policies will be void. Nothing in this paragraph prevents you from obtaining other insurance not issued under the Act.

14. Legal Action Against Us

(a) You may not bring legal action against us unless you have complied with all of the policy provisions.

(b) If you do take legal action against us, you must do so within 12 months of the date of denial of a claim. Suit must be brought in accordance with the provisions of 7 U.S.C. 1508(j).

(c) Your right to recover damages (compensatory, punitive, or other), attorney's fees, or other charges is limited or excluded by this contract or by Federal Regulations.

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15. Restrictions, Limitations, and Amounts Due Us

(a) We may restrict the amount of acreage we will insure to the amount allowed under any acreage limitation program established by USDA.

(b) Violation of Federal statutes including, but not limited to, the Act; the controlled substance provisions of the Food Security Act of 1985; the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990; and the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, and any regulation promulgated thereunder, will result in cancellation, termination, or voidance of your crop insurance contract. We will recover any and all monies paid to you or received by you during your period of ineligibility, and your premium will be refunded, less an amount for expenses and handling not to exceed 20 percent of the premium paid or to be paid by you.

(c) Our maximum liability under this policy will be limited to the policy protection specified in section 4 of this policy. Under no circumstances will we be liable for the payment of damages (compensatory, punitive, or other), attorney's fees, or other charges in connection with any claim for indemnity, whether we approve or disapprove such indemnity.

(d) We will pay simple interest computed on the net indemnity ultimately found to be due by us or determined by a final judgment of a court of competent jurisdiction or a final administrative determination from, and including, the 61st day after the date we receive the NASS county yield estimates for the insured crop year. Interest will be paid only if the reason for our failure to timely pay is not due to your failure to provide information or other material necessary for the computation or payment of the indemnity. The interest rate will be that established by the Secretary of the Treasury under section 12 of the Contract Disputes Act of 1978 (41 U.S.C. 611 *et seq.*), and published in the FEDERAL REGISTER.

(e) Any amount illegally or erroneously paid to you or that is owed to us but is delinquent may be recovered by us through offset by deducting it from any loan or payment due you under any Act of Congress or program administered by any United States Government Agency, or by other collection action.

(f) Interest will accrue at the rate not to exceed 1.25 percent simple interest per calendar month, or any part thereof, on any unpaid premium or administrative fee balance. For the purpose of premium and administrative fee amounts due us, interest will begin to accrue on the first day of the month following the premium billing date specified in the Special Provisions.

(g) For the purpose of any other amounts due us, such as repayment of indemnities found not to have been earned:

(1) Interest will start to accrue on the date that notice is issued to you for the collection of the unearned amount;

(2) Amounts found due under this paragraph will not be charged interest if payment is made in full within 30 days of issuance of the notice by us;

(3) The amount will be considered delinquent if not paid within 30 days of the date the notice is issued by us;

(4) Penalties and interest will be charged in accordance with 31 U.S.C. 3717 and 4 CFR part 102; and

(5) The penalty for accounts more than 90 days delinquent is an additional 6 percent per annum.

(h) Interest on any amount due us found to have been received by you because of fraud, misrepresentation, or presentation by you of a false claim will start on the date you received the amount with the additional 6 percent penalty beginning on the 31st day after the notice of amount due is issued to you. This interest is in addition to any other amount found to be due under any other Federal criminal or civil statute.

(i) If we determine that it is necessary to contract with a collection agency, refer the debt to governmental collection centers, the Department of Treasury Offset Program, or to employ an attorney to assist in collection, you agree to pay all of the expenses of collection.

(j) All amounts paid by you will be applied first to expenses of collection if any, second to reduction of any penalties which may have been assessed, then to reduction of accrued interest, and finally, to reduction of the principal balance.

[Reinsured policy]

15. Restrictions, Limitations, and Amounts Due Us

(a) We may restrict the amount of acreage we will insure to the amount allowed under any acreage limitation program established by USDA.

(b) Violation of Federal statutes including, but not limited to, the Act; the controlled substance provisions of the Food Security Act of 1985; the Food, Agriculture, Conservation, and Trade Act of 1990; and the Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act of 1993, and any regulation promulgated thereunder, will result in cancellation, termination, or voidance of your crop insurance contract. We will recover any and all monies paid to you or received by you during your period of ineligibility, and your premium will be refunded, less a reasonable amount for expenses and handling not to exceed 20 percent of the premium paid or to be paid by you.

(c) Our maximum liability under this policy will be limited to the policy protection

specified in section 4 of this policy. Under no circumstances will we be liable for the payment of damages (compensatory, punitive, or other), attorney's fees, or other charges in connection with any claim for indemnity, whether we approve or disapprove such indemnity.

(d) Interest will accrue at the rate not to exceed 1.25 percent simple interest per calendar month, or any part thereof, on any unpaid premium or administrative fee balance. For the purpose of premium and administrative fee amounts due us, interest will begin to accrue on the first day of the month following the premium billing date specified in the Special Provisions.

(e) For the purpose of any amounts due us, such as repayment of indemnities found not to have been earned, interest will start to accrue on the date that notice is issued to you for the collection of the unearned amount. Amounts found due under this paragraph will not be charged interest if payment in full is made within 30 days of issuance of notice by us. The amount will be considered delinquent if not paid in full within 30 days of the date the notice is issued by us.

(f) All amounts paid will be applied first to expenses of collection (see subsection (g) of this section) if any, second to reduction of accrued interest, and then to reduction of the principal balance.

(g) If we determine that it is necessary to contract with a collection agency or to employ an attorney to assist in collection, you agree to pay all of the expenses of collection.

(h) A portion of the amount paid to you to which you were not entitled may be collected through administrative offset from payments you receive from United States government agencies in accordance with 31 U.S.C. chapter 37.

[FCIC policy]

16. Determinations

All determinations required by the policy will be made by us. If you disagree with our determinations, you may obtain reconsideration or you may appeal our determinations in accordance with 7 CFR part 11.

[Reinsured policy]

16. Determinations

(a) If you and we fail to agree on any factual determination, the disagreement will be resolved in accordance with the rules of the American Arbitration Association. Failure to agree with any factual determination made by FCIC must be resolved through the FCIC appeal provisions published at 7 CFR part 11.

(b) No award determined by arbitration or appeal can exceed the amount of liability established or which should have been established under this policy.

[Both policies]

17. Holidays and Weekends

If any date specified in this program falls on Saturday, Sunday, or a legal Federal holiday, that date will be extended to the next business day.

18. Life of Policy, Cancellation, and Termination

(a) This is a continuous policy and will remain in effect for each crop year following the acceptance of the original application until canceled by you in accordance with the terms of the policy or terminated by operation of the terms of the policy or by us.

(b) Your application for insurance must contain all the information required by us to insure the crop. Applications that do not contain all social security numbers and employer identification numbers, as applicable (except as stated herein), coverage level, price election, crop, type, variety, or class, plan of insurance, and any other material information required to insure the crop, are not acceptable. If a person with a substantial beneficial interest in the insured crop refuses to provide a social security number or employer identification number, the amount of coverage available under the policy will be reduced proportionately by that person's share of the crop.

(c) After acceptance of the application, you may not cancel this policy for the initial crop year. Thereafter, the policy will continue in force for each succeeding crop year unless canceled or terminated as provided below.

(d) Either you or we may cancel this policy after the initial crop year by providing written notice to the other on or before the cancellation date shown in the Crop Provisions.

(e) If any amount due, including premium, is not paid on or before the termination date for the crop on which an amount is due:

(1) For a policy with the unpaid premium, the policy will terminate effective on the termination date immediately subsequent to the billing date for the crop year;

(2) For a policy with other amounts due, the policy will terminate effective on the termination date immediately after the account becomes delinquent;

(3) Ineligibility will be effective as of the date that the policy was terminated for the crop for which you failed to pay an amount owed and for all other insured crops with coincidental termination dates;

(4) All other policies that are issued by us under the authority of the Act will also terminate as of the next termination date contained in the applicable policy;

(5) If you are ineligible, you may not obtain any crop insurance under the Act until payment is made, you execute an agreement to repay the debt and make the payments in accordance with the agreement, or you file a

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petition to have your debts discharged in bankruptcy;

(6) If you execute an agreement to repay the debt and fail to timely make any scheduled payment, you will be ineligible for crop insurance effective on the date the payment was due until the debt is paid in full or you file a petition to discharge the debt in bankruptcy and subsequently obtain discharge of the amounts due. Dismissal of the bankruptcy petition before discharge will void all policies in effect retroactive to the date you were originally determined ineligible to participate;

(7) Once the policy is terminated, the policy cannot be reinstated for the current crop year unless the termination was in error;

(8) After you again become eligible for crop insurance, if you want to obtain coverage for your crops, you must reapply on or before the sales closing date for the crop (since applications for crop insurance cannot be accepted after the sales closing date, if you make any payment after the sales closing date, you cannot apply for insurance until the next crop year); and

(9) If we deduct the amount due us from an indemnity, the date of payment for the purpose of this section will be the date you sign the properly executed claim for indemnity.

(10) For example, if crop A, with a termination date of October 31, 1997, and crop B, with a termination date of March 15, 1998, are insured and you do not pay the premium for crop A by the termination date, you are ineligible for crop insurance as of October 31, 1997, and crop A's policy is terminated on that date. Crop B's policy is terminated as of March 15, 1998. If you enter an agreement to repay the debt on April 25, 1998, you can apply for insurance for crop A by the October 31, 1998, sales closing date and crop B by the March 15, 1999, sales closing date. If you fail to make a scheduled payment on November 1, 1998, you will be ineligible for crop insurance effective on November 1, 1998, and you will not be eligible unless the debt is paid in full or you file a petition to have the debt discharged in bankruptcy and subsequently receive discharge.

(f) If you die, disappear, or are judicially declared incompetent, or if you are an entity other than an individual and such entity is dissolved, the policy will terminate as of the date of death, judicial declaration, or dissolution. If such event occurs after coverage begins for any crop year, the policy will continue in force through the crop year and terminate at the end of the insurance period and any indemnity will be paid to the person or persons determined to be beneficially entitled to the indemnity. The premium will be deducted from the indemnity or collected from the estate. Death of a partner in a partnership will dissolve the partnership unless the partnership agreement provides otherwise. If two or more persons having a joint

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interest are insured jointly, death of one of the persons will dissolve the joint entity.

(g) We may terminate your policy if no premium is earned for 3 consecutive years.

(h) The cancellation and termination dates are contained in the Crop Provisions.

19. Contract Changes

(a) We may change any terms and conditions of this policy from year to year.

(b) Any changes in policy provisions, expected county yields, maximum amounts of protection, premium rates, and program dates will be provided by us to your local crop insurance provider not later than the contract change date contained in the Crop Provisions. You may view the documents or request copies from your local crop insurance provider.

(c) You will be notified, in writing, of changes to the Basic Provisions, Crop Provisions, and Special Provisions of this policy not later than 30 days prior to the cancellation date for the insured crop. Acceptance of changes will be conclusively presumed in the absence of notice from you to change or cancel your insurance coverage.

20. Eligibility for Other Farm Program Benefits

To remain eligible for benefits under the Agriculture Marketing Transition Act, the conservation reserve program, or certain farm loans, you are required to obtain at least the catastrophic level of coverage for either GRP or any other plan of insurance that is available in the county, for all crops of economic significance, or execute a waiver of your rights to any emergency crop assistance on or before the sales closing date for the crop.

An Example To Demonstrate How GRP Works

Producer A buys 90 percent coverage and selects \$160 protection per acre. Producer B buys 75 percent coverage and selects \$185 protection per acre. Both producers have 100 percent share and both plant 200 acres of a crop in the county. The expected county yield is 45 bushels per acre. The premium rate for 90 percent coverage is \$6.14 per hundred dollars of protection and the premium rate for 75 percent coverage is \$3.30 per hundred dollars of protection.

A's trigger yield is 40.5 bushels per acre ($90\% \times 45$), and the total premium due is \$1,965 ($\$160 \times \$6.14 \times 200 \text{ acres} \times 0.01$). Of that amount, FCIC pays \$614 ($200 \text{ acres} \times \text{the maximum subsidy of } \3.07 per acre). A's policy protection is \$32,000 ($\$160 \times 200 \text{ acres}$).

B's trigger yield is 33.8 bushels per acre ($75\% \text{ of } 45$), and the total premium due is \$1,221 ($\$185 \times \$3.30 \times 200 \text{ acres} \times 0.01$). Of that amount, FCIC pays \$442 ($200 \text{ acres} \times \text{the subsidy amount of } \2.21 per acre). B's policy protection is \$37,000 ($\$185 \times 200 \text{ acres}$).

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Scenario 1 (likely)

FCIC issues a payment yield of 46 bushels per acre. This is above both producers' trigger yields, so no indemnity payment is made, even if one or both have individual yields that are below the trigger yield.

Scenario 2 (less likely)

FCIC issues a payment yield of 38 bushels per acre. A's payment calculation factor is 0.062 $((40.5 - 38) \div 40.5)$. This number multiplied by the policy protection yields an indemnity payment of \$1,984 $(.062 \times \$32,000)$. B's trigger yield is less than the payment yield, so no indemnity payment is made.

Scenario 3 (least likely)

FCIC issues a payment yield of 22 bushels per acre. A's payment calculation factor is 0.457 $((40.5 - 22) \div 40.5)$. The payment is \$14,624 $(0.457 \times \$32,000)$. B's payment calculation factor is 0.349 $((33.8 - 22) \div 33.8)$, and the final indemnity payment is \$12,913 $(0.349 \times \$37,000)$.

[64 FR 30219, June 7, 1999, as amended at 65 FR 40485, June 30, 2000]

§ 407.10 Group risk plan for barley.

The provisions of the Group Risk Plan for Barley for the 2000 and succeeding crop years are as follows:

1. Definitions

Harvest. Combining or threshing the barley for grain.

NASS yield. The yield calculated by dividing the NASS estimate of the barley production in the county, by the NASS estimate of the acres of barley in the county, as specified in the actuarial documents. The actuarial documents will specify whether harvested or planted acreage is used to calculate the yield used to establish the expected county yield and calculate indemnities.

Planted acreage. Land in which the barley seed has been placed by a machine appro-

priate for the insured crop and planting method, at the correct depth, into a seedbed that has been properly prepared for the planting method and production practice. Land on which seed is initially spread onto the soil surface by any method and which subsequently is mechanically incorporated into the soil in a timely manner and at the proper depth, will also be considered planted.

2. Crop Insured

The insured crop will be all barley:

- (a) Grown on insurable acreage in the county or counties listed in the accepted application;
- (b) Properly planted and reported by the acreage reporting date;
- (c) Planted with the intent to be harvested as grain; and
- (d) Not planted into an established grass or legume, interplanted with another crop, or planted as a nurse crop, unless seeded at the normal rate and intended for harvest as grain.

3. Payment

- (a) A payment will be made only if the payment yield for the insured crop year is less than your trigger yield.
- (b) Payment yields will be determined prior to the April 1 following the crop year.
- (c) We will issue any payment to you prior to the May 1 immediately following our determination of the payment yield.
- (d) The payment is equal to the payment calculation factor multiplied by your policy protection for each insured crop practice and type specified in the actuarial documents.
- (e) The payment will not be recalculated even though the NASS yield may be subsequently revised.

4. Program Dates

State and county	Cancellation and termination dates	Contract change date
Kit Carson, Lincoln, Elbert, El Paso, Pueblo, Las Animas Counties, Colorado and all Colorado Counties south and east thereof; all New Mexico counties except Taos County; Kansas; Missouri; Illinois; Indiana; Ohio; Pennsylvania; New York; Massachusetts; and all states south and east thereof.	September 30	June 30.
Arizona; California; and Clark and Nye Counties, Nevada	October 31	June 30.
All Colorado counties except Kit Carson, Lincoln, Elbert, El Paso, Pueblo, and Las Animas Counties and all Colorado counties south and east thereof; all Nevada counties except Clark and Nye Counties; Taos County, New Mexico; and all other states except: Arizona, California, and (except) Kansas, Missouri, Illinois, Indiana, Ohio, Pennsylvania, New York, and Massachusetts and all States south and east thereof.	March 15	November 30.

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§ 407.11 Group risk plan for corn.

The provisions of the Group Risk Plan for Corn for the 2000 and succeeding crop years are as follows:

1. Definitions

Harvest. Combining or picking corn for grain, or severing the stalk from the land and chopping the stalk and ear for the purpose of livestock feed.

NASS yield. The yield calculated by dividing the NASS estimate of the corn for grain production in the county, by the NASS estimate of the acres of corn for grain in the county, as specified in the actuarial documents. The actuarial documents will specify whether harvested or planted acreage is used to calculate the yield used to establish the expected county yield and calculate indemnities.

Planted acreage. Land in which the corn seed has been placed by a machine appropriate for the insured crop and planting method, at the correct depth, into a seedbed that has been properly prepared for the planting method and production practice. Broadcast and subsequent mechanical incorporation of the corn seed is not allowed.

2. Crop Insured

(a) The insured crop will be all field corn:

(1) Grown on insurable acreage in the county listed in the accepted application;

(2) Properly planted and reported by the acreage reporting date;

(3) Planted with the intent to be harvested as grain, silage, or green chop; and

(4) Not planted into an established grass or legume or interplanted with another crop.

(b) Hybrid seed corn, popcorn, sweet corn, and other specialty corn may only be insured if a written agreement exists between you and us. Your request to insure such crop must be in writing and submitted to your agent not later than the sales closing date.

3. Payment

(a) A payment will be made only if the payment yield for the insured crop year is less than your trigger yield.

(b) Payment yields will be determined prior to April 16 following the crop year.

(c) We will issue any payment to you prior to the May 16 immediately following our determination of the payment yield.

(d) The payment is equal to the payment calculation factor multiplied by your policy protection for each insured crop practice and type specified in the actuarial documents.

(e) The payment will not be recalculated even though the NASS yield may be subsequently revised.

4. Program Dates

State and county	Cancellation and termination dates	Contract change date
Val Verde, Edwards, Kerr, Kendall, Bexar, Wilson, Karnes, Goliad, Victoria, and Jackson Counties, Texas, and all Texas counties lying south thereof.	January 15	November 30.
El Paso, Hudspeth, Culberson, Reeves, Loving, Winkler, Ector, Upton, Reagan, Sterling, Coke, Tom Green, Concho, McCulloch, San Saba, Mills, Hamilton, Bosque, Johnson, Tarrant, Wise, and Cooke Counties, Texas, and all Texas Counties lying south and east thereof to and including Terrell, Crockett, Sutton, Kimble, Gillespie, Blanco, Comal, Guadalupe, Gonzales, De Witt, Lavaca, Colorado, Wharton, and Matagorda Counties, Texas.	February 15	November 30.
Alabama; Arizona; Arkansas; California; Florida; Georgia; Louisiana; Mississippi; Nevada; North Carolina; South Carolina.	February 28	November 30.
All other Texas counties and all other states	March 15	November 30.

§ 407.12 Group risk plan for cotton.

The provisions of the Group Risk Plan for Cotton for the 2000 and succeeding crop years are as follows:

1. Definitions

Harvest. Removal of the seed cotton from the stalk.

NASS yield. The yield calculated by dividing the NASS estimate of upland cotton production in the county, by the NASS estimate of the acres of upland cotton in the county, as specified in the actuarial documents. The actuarial documents will specify whether harvested or planted acreage is used to calculate the yield used to establish the expected county yield and calculate indemnities.

Planted acreage. Land in which the cotton seed has been placed by a machine appropriate for the insured crop and planting method, at the correct depth, into a seedbed that has been properly prepared for the planting method and production practice. Broadcast and subsequent mechanical incorporation of the cotton seed is not allowed.

2. Crop Insured

The insured crop will be all upland cotton:

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(a) Grown on insurable acreage in the county or counties listed in the accepted application;

(b) Properly planted and reported by the acreage reporting date;

(c) Planted with the intent to be harvested; and

(d) That is not (unless allowed by the Special Provisions or by written agreement):

(1) Colored cotton lint;

(2) Planted into an established grass or legume;

(3) Interplanted with another spring planted crop;

(4) Grown on acreage in which a hay crop was harvested in the same calendar year unless the acreage is irrigated; or

(5) Grown on acreage on which a small grain crop reached the heading stage in the same calendar year unless the acreage is irrigated or adequate measures are taken to terminate the small grain crop prior to heading

and less than 50 percent of the small grain plants reach the heading stage.

3. Payment.

(a) A payment will be made only if the payment yield for the insured crop year is less than your trigger yield.

(b) Payment yields will be determined prior to July 16 following the crop year.

(c) We will issue any payment to you prior to the August 16 immediately following our determination of the payment yield.

(d) The payment is equal to the payment calculation factor multiplied by your policy protection for each insured crop practice and type specified in the actuarial documents.

(e) The payment will not be recalculated even though the NASS yield may be subsequently revised.

4. Program Dates

State and county	Cancellation and termination dates	Contract change date
Val Verde, Edwards, Kerr, Kendall, Bexar, Wilson, Karnes, Goliad, Victoria, and Jackson Counties, Texas, and all Texas counties lying south thereof.	January 15	November 30.
Alabama; Arizona; Arkansas; California; Florida; Georgia; Louisiana; Mississippi; Nevada; North Carolina; South Carolina; El Paso, Hudspeth, Culberson, Reeves, Loving, Winkler, Ector, Upton, Reagan, Sterling, Coke, Tom Green, Concho, McCulloch, San Saba, Mills, Hamilton, Bosque, Johnson, Tarrant, Wise, and Cooke Counties, Texas, and all Texas counties lying south and east thereof to and including Terrell, Crockett, Sutton, Kimble, Gillespie, Blanco, Comal, Guadalupe, Gonzales, De Witt, Lavaca, Colorado, Wharton, and Matagorda Counties, Texas.	February 28	November 30.
All other Texas counties and all other States	March 15	November 30.

§ 407.13 Group risk plan for forage.

The provisions of the Group Risk Plan for Forage for the 2000 and succeeding crop years are as follows:

1. Definitions

Harvest. Removal of the forage from the field, and rotational grazing.

NASS yield. The yield calculated by dividing the NASS estimate of the production of hay in the county by the NASS estimate of the acres of hay in the county, as specified in the actuarial documents. The actuarial documents will specify whether the harvested or planted acreage is used to calculate the yield used to establish the expected county yield and calculate indemnities.

Planted acreage. Land seeded to forage, by a planting method appropriate for forage, into a properly prepared seedbed.

Rotational grazing. The defoliation of the insured forage by livestock, within a pasturing system whereby the forage field is subdivided into smaller parcels and livestock are moved from one area to another, allowing a period of grazing followed by a period for forage regrowth.

2. Crop Insured

The insured crop will be the forage types shown on the Special Provisions:

(a) Grown on insurable acreage in the county or counties listed in the accepted application;

(b) Properly planted and reported by the acreage reporting date;

(c) Intended for harvest; and

(d) Not grown with another crop.

3. Insurable Acreage

In addition to section 3 of the Basic Provisions of the Group Risk Plan Common Policy, acreage seeded to forage after July 1 of the previous crop year will not be insurable. Acreage physically located in another county not listed on the accepted application is not insured under this policy.

4. Payment

(a) A payment will be made only if the payment yield for the insured crop year is less than your trigger yield.

(b) Payment yields will be determined prior to May 1 following the crop year.

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(c) We will issue any payment to you prior to the May 31 immediately following our determination of the payment yield.

(d) The payment is equal to the payment calculation factor multiplied by your policy protection for each insured crop practice and type specified in the actuarial documents.

(e) The payment will not be recalculated even though the NASS yield may be subsequently revised.

5. Program Dates

November 30 is the Cancellation and Termination Date for all states. The Contract Change Date is August 31 for all states.

6. Annual Premium

In lieu of section 8(g) of the Basic Provisions of the Group Risk Plan Common Policy, the annual premium is earned and payable on the acreage reporting date. You will be billed for premium due on the date shown in the Special Provisions. The premium will be determined based on the rate shown on the actuarial documents.

§ 407.14 Group risk plan for peanuts.

The provisions of the Group Risk Plan for Peanuts for the 2000 and succeeding crop years are as follows:

1. Definitions

Harvest. Combining or threshing the peanuts.

NASS yield. The yield calculated by dividing the NASS estimate of peanut production in the county, by the NASS estimate of the acres of peanuts in the county, as specified in the actuarial documents. The actuarial documents will specify whether the har-

vested or planted acreage is used to calculate the yield used to establish the expected county yield and calculate indemnities.

Planted acreage. Land in which the peanut seed has been placed by a machine appropriate for the insured crop and planting method, at the correct depth, into a seedbed that has been properly prepared for the planting method and production practice.

2. Crop Insured

The insured crop will be all peanuts:

(a) Grown on insurable acreage in the county or counties listed in the accepted application;

(b) Properly planted and reported by the acreage reporting date;

(c) Planted with the intent to be harvested as peanuts; and

(d) Not interplanted with an established grass or legume or interplanted with another crop.

3. Payment

(a) A payment will be made only if the payment yield for the insured crop year is less than your trigger yield.

(b) Payment yields will be determined prior to June 16 following the crop year.

(c) We will issue any payment to you prior to the July 16 immediately following our determination of the payment yield.

(d) The payment is equal to the payment calculation factor multiplied by your policy protection for each insured crop practice and type specified in the actuarial documents.

(e) The payment will not be recalculated even though the NASS yield may be subsequently revised.

4. Program Dates

State and county	Cancellation and termination dates	Contract change date
Jackson, Victoria, Goliad, Bee, Live Oak, McMullen, La Salle, and Dimmit Counties, Texas and all Texas Counties lying south thereof.	January 15	November 30.
El Paso, Hudspeth, Culberson, Reeves, Loving, Winkler, Ector, Upton, Reagan, Sterling, Coke, Tom Green, Concho, McCulloch, San Saba, Mills, Hamilton, Bosque, Johnson, Tarrant, Wise, Cooke Counties, Texas, and all Texas counties south and east thereof; and all other states except New Mexico, Oklahoma, and Virginia.	February 28	November 30.
New Mexico; Oklahoma; Virginia; and all other Texas Counties	March 15	November 30.

§ 407.15 Group risk plan for sorghum.

The provisions of the Group Risk Plan for Sorghum for the 2000 and succeeding crop years are as follows:

1. Definitions

Harvest. Combining or threshing the sorghum for grain, or severing the stalk from the land and chopping the stalk and head for the purpose of livestock feed.

NASS yield. The yield calculated by dividing the NASS estimate of sorghum for grain production in the county, by the NASS estimate of the acres of sorghum for grain in the county, as specified in the actuarial documents. The actuarial documents will specify whether the harvested or planted acreage is used to calculate the yield used to establish the expected county yield and calculate indemnities.

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Planted acreage. Land in which the sorghum seed has been placed by a machine appropriate for the insured crop and planting method, at the correct depth, into a seedbed that has been properly prepared for the planting method and production practice. Broadcast and subsequent mechanical incorporation of the sorghum seed is not allowed.

2. Crop Insured

- (a) The insured crop will be all sorghum:
 - (1) Grown on insurable acreage in the county or counties listed in the accepted application;
 - (2) Properly planted and reported by the acreage reporting date;
 - (3) Planted with the intent to be harvested as grain or silage; and
 - (4) Not interplanted with an established grass or legume or interplanted with another crop.
- (b) Hybrid sorghum seed may only be insured if a written agreement exists between

you and us. Your request to insure such crop must be in writing and submitted to your agent not later than the sales closing date.

3. Payment

- (a) A payment will be made only if the payment yield for the insured crop year is less than your trigger yield.
- (b) Payment yields will be determined prior to April 16 following the crop year.
- (c) We will issue any payment to you prior to the May 16 immediately following our determination of the payment yield.
- (d) The payment is equal to the payment calculation factor multiplied by your policy protection for each insured crop practice and type specified in the actuarial documents.
- (e) The payment will not be recalculated even though the NASS yield may be subsequently revised.

4. Program Dates

State and county	Cancellation and termination dates	Contract change date
Val Verde, Edwards, Kerr, Kendall, Bexar, Wilson, Kames, Goliad, Victoria, and Jackson Counties, Texas, and all Texas counties lying south thereof.	January 15	November 30.
El Paso, Hudspeth, Culberson, Reeves, Loving, Winkler, Ector, Upton, Reagan, Sterling, Coke, Tom Green, Concho, McCulloch, San Saba, Mills, Hamilton, Bosque, Johnson, Tarrant, Wise, and Cooke Counties, Texas, and all Texas counties south and east thereof to and including Terrell, Crockett, Sutton, Kimble, Gillespie, Blanco, Comal, Guadalupe, Gonzales, De Witt, Lavaca, Colorado, Wharton, and Matagorda Counties, Texas.	February 15	November 30.
Alabama; Arizona; Arkansas; California; Florida; Georgia; Louisiana; Mississippi; Nevada; North Carolina; and South Carolina.	February 28	November 30.
All other Texas counties and all other states	March 15	November 30.

§ 407.16 Group risk plan for soybean.

The provisions of the Group Risk Plan for Soybeans for the 2000 and succeeding crop years are as follows:

1. Definitions

Harvest. Combining or threshing the soybeans.

NASS yield. The yield calculated by dividing the NASS estimate of soybean production in the county, by the NASS estimate of the acres of soybeans in the county, as specified in the actuarial documents. The actuarial documents will specify whether the harvested or planted acreage is used to calculate the yield used to establish the expected county yield and calculate indemnities.

Planted acreage. Land in which the soybean seed has been placed by a machine appropriate for the insured crop and planting method, at the correct depth, into a seedbed that has been properly prepared for the planting method and production practice. Land on which seed is initially spread onto the soil surface by any method and which

subsequently is mechanically incorporated into the soil in a timely manner and at the proper depth, will also be considered planted.

2. Crop Insured

The insured crop will be all soybeans:

- (a) Grown on insurable acreage in the county or counties listed in the accepted application;
- (b) Properly planted and reported by the acreage reporting date;
- (c) Planted with the intent to be harvested as soybeans; and
- (d) Not planted into an established grass or legume or interplanted with another crop.

3. Payment

- (a) A payment will be made only if the payment yield for the insured crop year is less than your trigger yield.
- (b) Payment yields will be determined prior to April 16 following the crop year.
- (c) We will issue any payment to you prior to the May 16 immediately following our determination of the payment yield.

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(d) The payment is equal to the payment calculation factor multiplied by your policy protection for each insured crop practice and type specified on the actuarial documents.

(e) The payment will not be recalculated even though the NASS yield may be subsequently revised.

4. Program Dates

State and county	Cancellation and termination dates	Contract change date
Jackson, Victoria, Goliad, Bee, Live Oak, McMullen, La Salle, and Dimmit Counties, Texas and all Texas counties lying south thereof.	February 15	November 30.
Alabama; Arizona; Arkansas; California; Florida; Georgia; Louisiana; Mississippi; Nevada; North Carolina; South Carolina; and El Paso, Hudspeth, Culberson, Reeves, Loving, Winkler, Ector, Upton, Reagan, Sterling, Coke, Tom Green, Concho, McCulloch, San Saba, Mills, Hamilton, Bosque, Johnson, Tarrant, Wise, and Cooke Counties, Texas, and all Texas counties lying south and east thereof to and including Maverick, Zavala, Frio, Atascosa, Karnes, De Witt, Lavaca, Colorado, Wharton, and Matagorda Counties, Texas.	February 28	November 30.
All other Texas counties and all other States	March 15	November.
All other Texas counties and all other states.	March 15	November 30.

§ 407.17 Group risk plan for wheat.

The provisions of the Group Risk Plan for Wheat for the 2000 and succeeding crop years are as follows:

1. Definitions

Harvest. Combining or threshing the wheat for grain.

NASS yield. The yield calculated by dividing the NASS estimate of the wheat production in the county, by the NASS estimate of the acres of wheat in the county, as specified in the actuarial documents. The actuarial documents will specify whether the harvested or planted acreage is used to calculate the yield used to establish the expected county yield and calculate indemnities.

Planted acreage. Land in which the wheat seed has been planted by a machine appropriate for the insured crop and planting method, at the correct depth, into a seedbed that has been properly prepared for the planting method and production practice. Land on which seed is initially spread onto the soil surface by any method and which subsequently is mechanically incorporated into the soil in a timely manner and at the proper depth, will also be considered planted.

2. Crop Insured

The insured crop will be all wheat:

- (a) Grown on insurable acreage in the county or counties listed in the accepted application;
- (b) Properly planted and reported by the acreage reporting date;
- (c) Planted with the intent to be harvested as grain; and
- (d) Not planted into an established grass or legume, interplanted with another crop, or planted as a nurse crop, unless seeded at the normal rate and intended for harvest as grain.

3. Payment

- (a) A payment will be made only if the payment yield for the insured crop year is less than your trigger yield.
- (b) Payment yields will be determined prior to April 1 following the crop year.
- (c) We will issue any payment to you prior to the May 1 immediately following our determination of the payment yield.
- (d) The payment is equal to the payment calculation factor multiplied by your policy protection for each insured crop practice and type specified in the actuarial documents.
- (e) The payment will not be recalculated even though the NASS yield may be subsequently revised.

State and county	Cancellation and termination dates	Contract change date
All Colorado counties except Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, Rio Grande, and Saguache; all Montana counties except Daniels and Sheridan Counties; all South Dakota counties except Corson, Walworth, Edmonds, Faulk, Spink, Beadle, Kingsbury, Miner, McCook, Turner, and Yankton Counties and all South Dakota counties east thereof; all Wyoming counties except Big Horn, Fremont, Hot Springs, Park, and Washakie Counties; and all other states except Alaska, Arizona, California, Maine, Minnesota, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Utah, and Vermont.	September 30	June 30.
Arizona; California; Nevada; and Utah	October 31	June 30.

State and county	Cancellation and termination dates	Contract change date
Alaska; Alamosa, Conejos, Costilla, Rio Grande, and Saguache Counties, Colorado; Maine; Minnesota; Daniels and Sheridan Counties, Montana; New Hampshire; North Dakota; Corson, Walworth, Edmunds, Faulk, Spink, Beadle, Kingsbury, Miner, McCook, Turner, and Yankton Counties South Dakota, and all South Dakota counties east thereof; Vermont; and Big Horn, Fremont, Hot Springs, Park, and Washakie Counties, Wyoming..	March 15	November 30.

PARTS 408–411 [RESERVED]**PART 412—PUBLIC INFORMATION—
FREEDOM OF INFORMATION**

Sec.

412.1 General statement.

412.2 Public inspection and copying.

412.3 Index.

412.4 Requests for records.

412.5 Appeals.

412.6 Timing of responses to requests.

AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 552 and 7 U.S.C. 1506.

SOURCE: 62 FR 67694, Dec. 30, 1997, unless otherwise noted.

§ 412.1 General statement.

This part is issued in accordance with the regulations of the Secretary of Agriculture published at 7 CFR 1.1–1.23, and appendix A, implementing the Freedom of Information Act (5 U.S.C. 552). The Secretary's regulations, as implemented by this part, and the Risk Management Agency (RMA) govern availability of records of the Federal Crop Insurance Corporation (FCIC) as administration of the crop insurance program for FCIC.

§ 412.2 Public inspection and copying.

(a) Members of the public may request access to the information specified in § 412.2(d) for inspection and copying.

(b) To obtain access to specified information, the public should submit a written request, in accordance with 7 CFR 1.6, to the Appeals, Litigation and Legal Liaison Staff, Risk Management Agency, United States Department of Agriculture, 1400 Independence Avenue, SW, STOP 0807, room 6618-S, Washington, DC 20250-0807, from 9:00 a.m.—4:00 pm., EDT Monday through Friday, except holidays.

(c) When the information requested is not located at the office of the Appeals, Litigation and Legal Liaison Staff, the

Appeals, Litigation and Legal Liaison Staff will direct the request to the appropriate office where the information can be obtained. The requester will be informed that the request has been forwarded to the appropriate office.

(d) FCIC will make available for inspection and copying, unless otherwise exempt from publication under sections 552(a)(2)(C) and 552(b):

(1) Final opinions, including concurring and dissenting opinions and orders made in the adjudication of cases; and

(2) Those statements of policy and interpretations that have been adopted by FCIC and RMA and are not published in the FEDERAL REGISTER; and

(3) Administrative staff manuals and instructions to staff that affect a member of the public.

§ 412.3 Index.

5 U.S.C. 552(a)(2) requires that each agency publish, or otherwise make available, a current index of all materials available for public inspection and copying. RMA and FCIC will maintain a current index providing identifying information for the public as to any material issued, adopted, or promulgated by the Agency since July 4, 1967, and required by section 552(a)(2). Pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act provisions, RMA and FCIC have determined that in view of the small number of public requests for such index, publication of such an index would be unnecessary and impracticable. Copies of the index will be available upon request in person or by mail at the address stated in § 412.2(b).

§ 412.4 Requests for records.

The Director of the Appeals, Litigation and Legal Liaison staff, RMA located at the above stated address, is